G-II-B-190

John Bowser Farm Strawn Private

This farm comprises a two-story, ell-plan frame house, a frame bank barn, and several outbuilding.

Dave Wiltrout bought this farm from John Bowser in 1902. Shortly, thereafter he built the present dwelling to replace the small vertical plank house that Bowser had built. A log house reportedly predated Bowser's structure. The barn is said to date from c. 1870

The building sequence of these structures exhibits the three most common forms of wood construction in Garrett County-log, vertical plank, and balloon frame. This sequence also appears at the J. Bunnell Friend Farm. (G-III-A-049).

The historical character of this farm is enhanced by the use of non-electric appliances and plumbing fixtures.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

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CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

_UNALTERED

MOVED DATE

G-I-3-30

▲GOOD

__EXCELLENT

__UNEXPOSED

__RUINS

__DETERIORATED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Dave Wiltrout Farm is located on the east side of Pig's Ear Road approximately 1.5 miles south of Strawn. The farm is set back from the road .2 mile and includes a dwelling, a shed, a privy, a bank barn, and a hog pen.

The house is a two story, gable-roofed building of balloon frame construction. Its basic configuration is an ell-plan that consists of a three bay by one bay main block and a one bay by one bay rear wing. A shed-roofed porch supported by chamfered posts extends across the facade, continues around to the northeast endwall and the rear wall, and terminates on the northeast side of the rear The facade has a symmetrical three bay, center door arrange-Its door and the rear door are both topped by single-pane transom lights. All windows are one over one sash with plain board surrounds and molded drip boards. Also, each of the three gables is lit by a small diamond window with plain board surrounds and bullseye cornerblocks. The exterior walls have been covered with brickpatterned asphalt siding but the roof retains its original stamped tin shingles. An interior brick chimney is located on the ridgeline of the rear wing, and is attached to a wood-burning cookstove in the kitchen.

The interior is laid out in a two room, center stair plan with a rear kitchen wing. The staircase is enclosed and the two doorways on either side of the stairs are set at 45 degree angles to the walls. The house rests on a coursed, roughly squared stone foundation that provides a basement to the area under the main block. This basement is used as cold storage. Except for the asphalt siding the house has undergone no alterations. Neither electricity nor plumbing was ever installed. The rooms are lit with kerosene lamps and heated with a wood-burning stove.

A two-room, gable-roofed, vertical plank shed with a porch is located just behind (east) of the house. The privy, which is a frame, gable-roofed building, stands just northeast of this shed. The barn sits on a coursed, squared stone foundation further east. Its frame is constructed of hewn timbers mortise and tenoned together. Shed wings have been added to both long walls and a new roof has been installed. The hog pen, which is located north of the barn, consists of a fenced area and a small, frame shed.

SPECIFIC DAT	ES	BUILDER/ARCHITECT				
		_INVENTION				
<u> </u>	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)		
_1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION		
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER		
_1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE		
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE		
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION		
PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW					

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Dave Wiltrout bought this farm from John Bowser in 1902. Shortly therafter he built the present dwelling to replace the small vertical-plank house that Bowser had built. A log house reportedly predated Bowser's structure. Tha barn is said to date from c.1870.

The building sequence of these structures exhibits the three most common forms of wood construction in Garrett County-log, vertical plank, and balloon frame. This sequence also appears at the J. Bunnell Friend Farm (G-III-A-049)

The historical character of this farm is enchanced by the use of non-electric appliances and plumbing fixtures.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

APPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
n, Architectural Historian
DATE
July 1981
TELEPHONE
(301) 269-2438
STATE
Marvland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

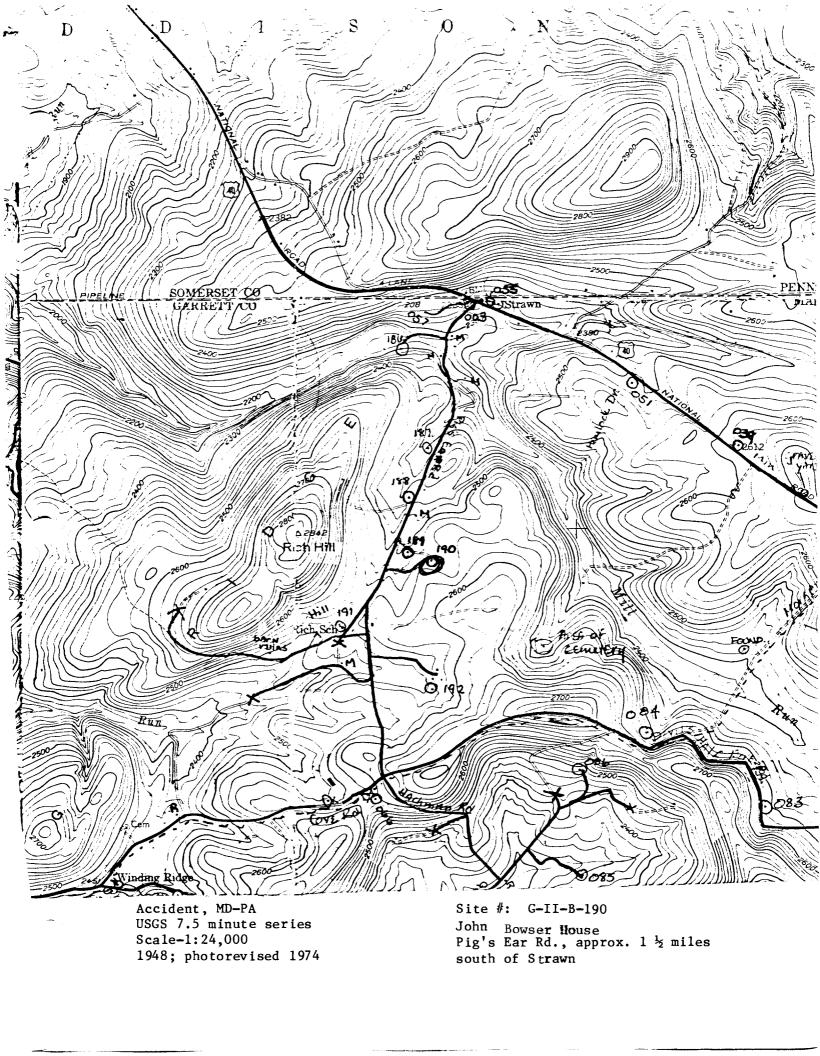
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438





John Bowser House Garrett Co., MD Photo: A. Burns 7 Nov. 1980 Hs-Facade-NW elev; SW elev.

G-II-B-190



G-II-B-190 John Bowser House Garrett Co., MD Photo: A. Burns 7 Nov. 1980 Hs, SE & NE elevs.



John Bowser House Garrett Co., MD Photo: A. Burns 7 Nov. 1980 Barn, N & W elevs.

G-II-B-190



John Bowser House Garrett Co., MD Photo: A. Burns 7 Nov. 1980 The shed, NW & SW elevs.

G-II-B-190